

Highlights

This issue of the *Natural Gas Monthly* contains estimates of natural gas data through November 2001 for many data series at the national level. National-level natural gas prices are available through July 2001 (electric utilities), August (residential, commercial, and industrial), and October (wellhead). State-level data generally are available through August 2001, although underground storage data are available through September 2001.

Recent analyses of the natural gas industry are available on the EIA web site, under "Featured Topics" to the right side of the home page. The first two reports listed below are updated regularly, while the third is a one-time report that was released in October 2001. These reports are:

- *Natural Gas Weekly Update* - a current analysis of the industry each week, including information on natural gas spot and futures prices and storage activities. This page also provides links to numerous other EIA sites dealing with natural gas.

- *Short Term Energy Outlook* - projections of energy consumption, supply, and price by type of fuel, including natural gas, for the next 18 months.
- *Natural Gas Transportation - Infrastructure Issues and Operational Trends* - examines how well the current national natural gas pipeline network has been able to handle today's market demand for natural gas. In addition, it identifies those areas of the country where pipeline utilization is continuing to grow rapidly and where new pipeline capacity is needed or is planned over the next several years.

Other natural gas data and analyses may be found through the "Natural Gas" section of EIA's web site. In the center section of the home page, the user should place the cursor on "By Fuel," then click on "Natural Gas" in the drop-down menu.

Adjustment of 2000 Monthly Data

This issue of the *Natural Gas Monthly* contains revisions of several of the 2000 monthly data series. These data series have been revised so that their totals for the 12 months of the year agree with the annual totals shown in the *Natural Gas Annual 2000*. The data series that were adjusted to annual totals are: natural gas production, wellhead prices, underground storage injections and withdrawals, consumption, and consumer prices.

The revisions are the result of an adjustment process that is performed each year when data received from an annual census of respondents become available. Before the process begins, all revisions and corrections that had been received throughout the year are included in the monthly base figures. Then the annual adjustment process aligns the monthly estimates for sectoral consumption, sectoral prices, and underground storage injections and withdrawals, which had been developed using monthly survey information, to agree with the annual summaries of data reported on the Form EIA-176, "Annual Report of Natural and Supplemental Gas Supply and Disposition," and published in the *Natural Gas Annual 2000*. Natural gas production and wellhead prices are also revised using the best information obtained from producing States and the U.S. Minerals Management Service.

Appendices A (Explanatory Notes), B (Data Sources), and C (Statistical Considerations) of this publication provide further information about data sources, estimation procedures, annual adjustments, and sample design. These appendices may be helpful in evaluating the monthly data.